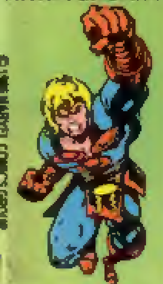
MARVEL 25TH ANNIVERSARY



#10 IN A TWELVE-ISSUE LIMITED SERIES

THE ETERNALS

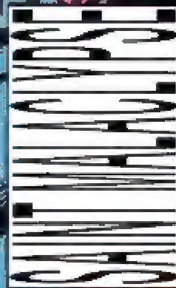
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

SERSI -- WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!

YOU--YOU'RE CHANGING ME INTO ...

... A DEVIANT!





the Eternals™

WALTER SIMONSON • WRITER
KEITH POLLARD • PENCILER
BULANADI / SIMONSON / MORGAN • INKERS
PARKER • LETTERS
ROUSSOS • COLORS
RALPH MACCHIO • EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER • EDITOR IN CHIEF

A MIND IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE!

OLYMPIA -- SECRET HOME OF THE ETERNALS.

SINCE THE TIME OF THE BEGINNING THE DWELLERS HERE WATCHED OVER THEIR MORTAL BRETHREN...

... GUARDING THEM AND GUIDING THEM THROUGH THE CENTURIES.

BUT NOW THE CITY IS NEARLY EMPTY; ITS ONCE BUSTLING STREETS DESERTED...

... AND THE REMAINING ETERNALS MUST FACE THEIR GREATEST CHALLENGE!

THIS WARRIOR SHALL LEAD THEM.

HE IS IKARIS, THE NEW PRIME ETERNAL, AND HE GOES TO CALL HIS LITTLE BAND TO WAR.

ETERNALS™ Vol. 2, No. 10, July, 1986. Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice-President. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Published monthly.


MY FRIENDS, WE SHALL WATCH AND WAIT NO LONGER. THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE ETERNALS TO STRIKE!
KARKAS IS READY, MY LORD.
WE ARE FEW, IKARIS.
KINGO AND REJECT, CYBELE, THE FORGOTTEN ONE... WE ALONE HAVE ANSWERED THE SUMMONS.
KHORYPHOS HAS VANISHED AND PHASTOS WILL FIGHT NO BATTLES.


THEN WE SHALL GO TO LEMURIA WITHOUT THEM, MAKKARI.
CYBELE, I WOULD ASK YOU TO REMAIN HERE IN OLYMPIA WITH THE MONITORS OF ARGOS. KEEP WATCH ON THE WORLD WHILE WE TRAVEL INTO THE DEEPS OF THE SEA.
YOU WILL BE OUR RESERVE.
SHOULD WE FAIL IN OUR EFFORTS AGAINST THE DEVIANTS...
I UNDERSTAND, IKARIS.
AND IKARIS, IF YOU FIND THENA AMONG THE DEVIANTS...
CYBELE, I WILL DO WHAT I CAN.


BUT I SEE THAT ONE OF OUR NUMBER IS MISSING. SERSI IS STILL IN NEW YORK.
SHE MUST COME.
AND I WON'T TAKE "NO" FOR AN ANSWER!
NO, IKARIS! I AM NOT COMING!
AND THAT'S FINAL!
YOUR PARTIES ARE ALWAYS SO BORING!
THERE IS NO PARTY, SERSI, AND YOU KNOW IT!



THE DEVIANTS HAVE GAINED A WEAPON THAT COULD DESTROY THE EARTH AND ALL HER CHILDREN.
THE MANTLE OF POWER SUITS IKARIS. YOU SOUND LIKE YOU'RE BECOMING A POET.
RELAX, SOUR-PUSS! THE DEVIANTS ARE JUST SPOIL-SPORTS...
...AND THEY AREN'T GOING TO BE ABLE TO HANDLE SUCH A WEAPON ANYWAY.



WHY DON'T YOU AND MARGO GO OUT FOR A GOOD TIME AND ENJOY EACH OTHER'S COMPANY?
MARGO? ISN'T SHE THERE WITH YOU?
WHY, NO.



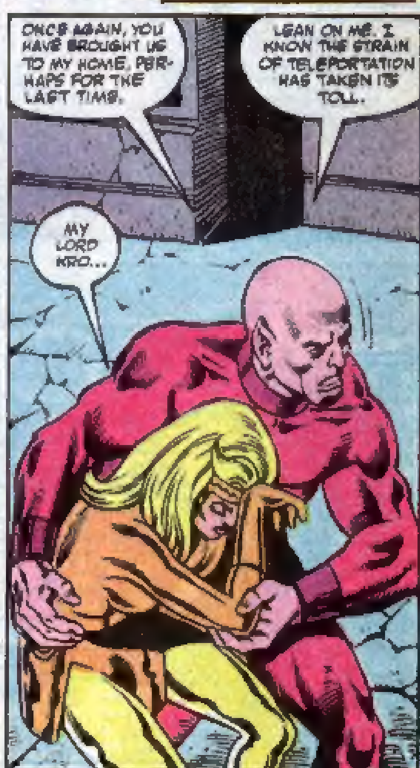
DIDN'T SHE RETURN WITH MAKKARI AND THE OTHERS TO OLYMPIA*?
THOUGH I DID THINK HER A LITTLE RUDE FOR NOT SAYING GOODBYE.
IKARIS!
WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO HER?
I LEFT SERSI'S IN SUCH ANGER...
*LAST ISSUE -- MAC-KARRI.



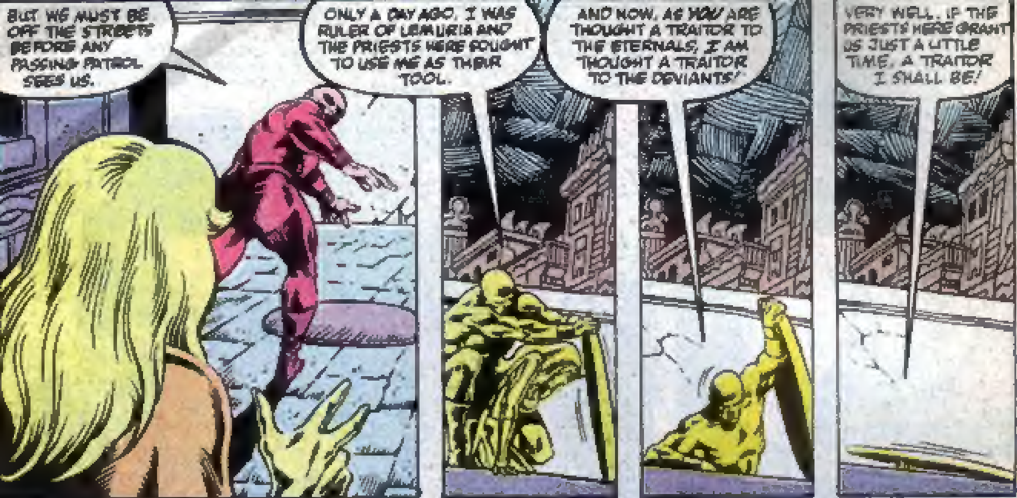
...THAT I DID NOT THINK OF MARGO AT ALL!
I JUST ASSUMED THAT SERSI WOULD LOOK AFTER HER.
SURELY SHE MUST BE ALL RIGHT.



MEANWHILE, IN THE ANCIENT CITY OF TOADS, CAPITAL OF THE SUNKEN CIVILIZATION OF LEMURIA BENEATH THE PACIFIC...
SHRRISK!
WELL DONE, THENA!



ONCE AGAIN, YOU HAVE BROUGHT US TO MY HOME, PERHAPS FOR THE LAST TIME.
LEAN ON ME. I KNOW THE STRAIN OF TELEPORTATION HAS TAKEN ITS TOLL.
MY LORD KRO...



BUT WE MUST BE OFF THE STREETS BEFORE ANY PASSING PATROL SEES US.
ONLY A DAY AGO, I WAS RULER OF LEMURIA AND THE PRIESTS HERE SOUGHT TO USE ME AS THEIR TOOL.
AND NOW, AS YOU ARE THOUGHT A TRAITOR TO THE ETERNALS, I AM THOUGHT A TRAITOR TO THE DEVIANTS!
VERY WELL. IF THE PRIESTS HERE GRANT US JUST A LITTLE TIME, A TRAITOR I SHALL BE!

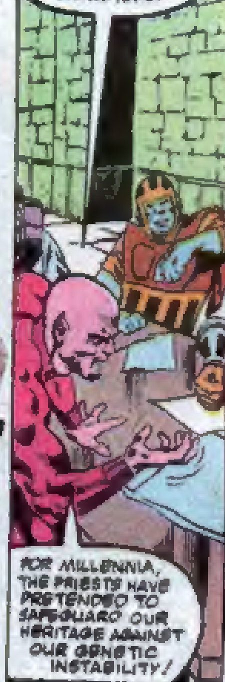


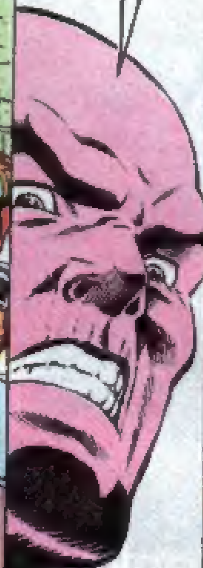
KRO, THESE PASSAGES...?
...ARE A LABYRINTH WHOSE SECRETS ARE KNOWN ONLY TO MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL HOUSE AND THEIR CONFI-DANTS.
BUT THEY LEAD TO MANY HIDDEN CHAMBERS AND JUST AHEAD IS THE ONE WE SEEK!
IT IS THE SECRET MEETING PLACE OF THE MILITARY LEADERS OF LEMURIA.
LEADERS WHO HAVE FOUND THEIR POWER SUDDENLY USURPED BY THE PRIESTS.



I BID YOU GREETINGS, FELLOW CONSPIRATORS...
...AS DOES THE LADY THENA, LATELY PRIME ETERNAL OF OLYMPIA*.
SHE IS HERE TO HELP US.
L...LORD KRO!
WE THOUGHT YOU WERE... THAT IS...
* ETERNALS #4 --MAC AGAIN.


THE RUMORS OF MY DEATH, AS THEY SAY, HAVE BEEN GREATLY EXAGGERATED.
BUT THE TREACHERY OF THE PRIESTS HAS BEEN UNDER-ESTIMATED!
WE DEVIANTS ARE THE SHADOWED BROTHERS OF MANKIND.


WE LIVE IN THE DARKNESS AND DESPAIR AND BREED TINY MONSTERS.
FOR MILLENNIA, THE PRIESTS HAVE PRETENDED TO SAFEGUARD OUR HERITAGE AGAINST OUR GENETIC INSTABILITY!


IN TRUTH, THEY HAVE ENGINEERED THE DESTRUCTION OF EVERY GENERATION.


THE PRIESTLORD GHAUR HAS MUCH TO ANSWER FOR...
... AND THE FIREPITS ARE THE PROOF!


BRAVELY SAID, MY LORD KRO, BUT YOU NEEDN'T RAISE YOUR VOICE SO.


WE CAN ALL HEAR YOU QUITE CLEARLY.
AND I THINK WE'VE ALL HEARD QUITE ENOUGH.
GHAUR!


MEANWHILE, IN OLYMPIA...
SHRRISK!
IKARIS! BEHOLD! THE PRODIGAL HAS RETURNED!


SERSI! YOU'VE COME JUST IN TIME!
WE MUST REACH LEMURIA BEFORE GHAUR SUCCEEDS IN OPENING THE VIAL HIS DEVIANTS STOLE FROM THE ARCTIC PYRAMID OF THE WINDS.*
AND MARGO? HAVE YOU FOUND HER?
*ETERNALS #7-- MAO.


THERE ISN'T TIME TO LOOK. IF THE VIAL IS OPENED, ALL MAY PERISH!


POOR DEAR. YOUR ROMANCES WITH ORDINARY MORTALS ARE DESTINED ALWAYS TO WITHER AND DIE EVENTUALLY.
I THINK I LIKE IKARIS BEST OF ALL BECAUSE THE HARDEST HEADED OF ETERNALS IS FOREVER CHASING A DYING DREAM.
THAT'S WHY I DECIDED TO JOIN YOU...

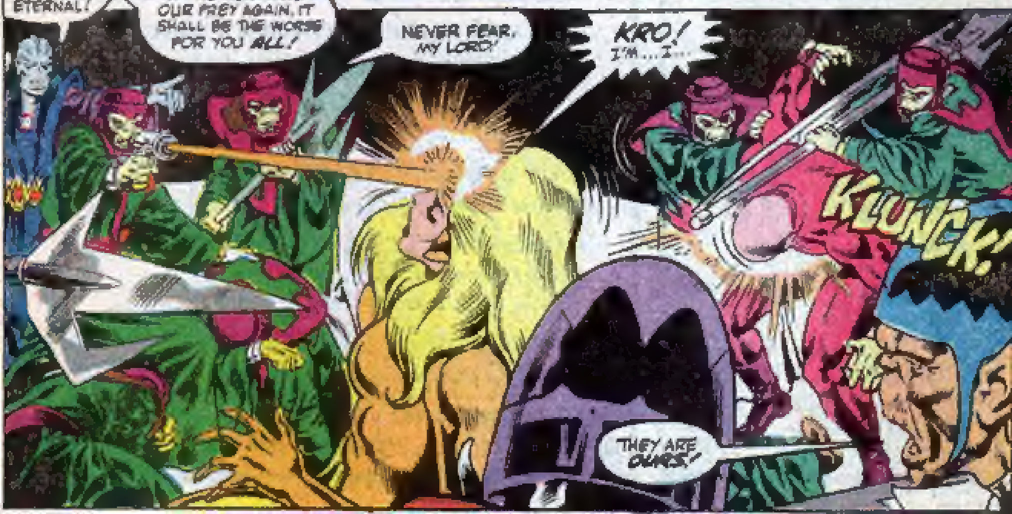

...BUT IF YOU WANT TO BE A GATECRASHER, YOU HAD BEST WEAR SOMETHING INCONSPICUOUS.
A MINOR REARRANGEMENT OF THE ATOMS ABOUT US SHOULD SUFFICE.


KARKAS, THOUGH YOU ARE A DEVIANT BY BIRTH, YOURS IS THE SOUL OF AN ETERNAL.
MONITOR OUR FLIGHT AND RECORD OUR PROGRESS.
IF WE FAIL, NOTIFY CYBELE.


AND THE FATE OF THE WORLD WILL BE IN YOUR HANDS.
THE HAND OF EVERY DEVIANT WILL BE AGAINST YOU AND EVEN AN ETERNAL MIGHT NOT PREVAIL AGAINST SUCH ODDS.
MAY THE SPACE GODS WATCH OVER YOU, BRAVE FOOLS.


MEANWHILE, IN LEMURIA...
MY LORD GHAUR, WE HAVE DONE AS YOU REQUESTED!
MAY WE NOT GO IN PEACE?
SO EVEN THE GENERALS WHO HATE YOUR GUTS CRAVE YOUR FAVOR, GHAUR?
I WOULD ASK BY WHAT SECRET YOU MAKE THEM DO YOUR BIDDING, BUT I FEAR WE WON'T HAVE TIME TO HEAR THE ANSWER!


THENA! BY MY SIDE!
FZAPPPT!
QUICKLY! YOU FOOLS! ONLY THE BRAIN MINE WILL STOP AN ETERNAL!


IF WE YET LOSE OUR PREY AGAIN, IT SHALL BE THE WORSE FOR YOU ALL!
NEVER FEAR, MY LORD!
KRO! I'M... I...
KLUNCK!
THEY ARE OURS!

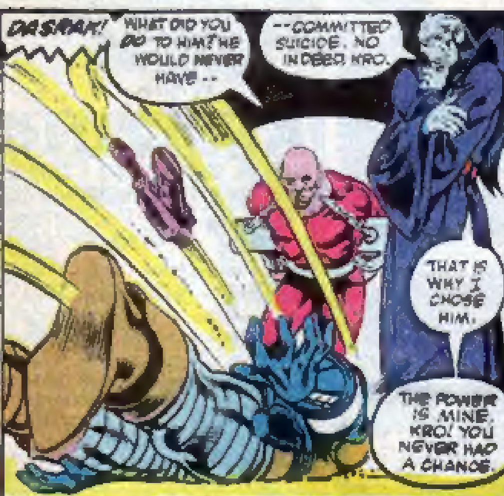

THENA!
YOU NEEDN'T WORRY, KRO!
OUR RECENTLY REDESIGNED BRAIN MINES WILL PERMIT THENA A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF CON-SCIOUSNESS UPON COMMAND.
SAY, THAT OF A POTATO.

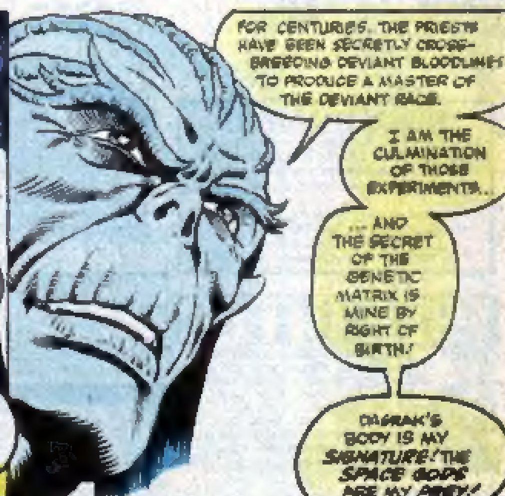

WHEN SHE AWAKENS, SHE SHALL BELONG TO ME!
IMPOSSIBLE!
YOU THINK SO? STEP FORWARD GENERAL DASRAK.
YES, MY LORD?


MY GOOD FRIEND, KRO, WONDERS ABOUT THE SECRET OF HOW YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS CAME TO BETRAY HIM.
SIR?


A SMALL DEMONSTRATION IS IN ORDER, I THINK.
IF YOU WOULD BE SO KIND AS TO KILL YOUR-SELF?
SIR?!


IMMEDIATELY, PLEASE.
SI...!!
BLAMM!


DASRAK!
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM? HE WOULD NEVER HAVE --
--COMMITTED SUICIDE. NO INDEED, KRO.
THAT IS WHY I CHOSE HIM.
THE POWER IS MINE, KRO! YOU NEVER HAD A CHANCE.


FOR CENTURIES, THE PRIESTS HAVE BEEN SECRETLY CROSS-BREEDING DEVIANT BLOODLINES TO PRODUCE A MASTER OF THE DEVIANT RACE.
I AM THE CULMINATION OF THOSE EXPERIMENTS...
...AND THE SECRET OF THE GENETIC MATRIX IS MINE BY RIGHT OF BIRTH!
DASRAK'S BODY IS MY SIGNATURE! THE SPACE GODS ARE MY PREY!

BUT AS KRO STARES DUMBFOUNDED AT HIS SMILING ENEMY, NOT FAR AWAY FROM LEMURIA ON THE SURFACE WORLD ABOVE...
THERE'S THE ANCIENT CALDERA, IKARIS. INSIDE IS A TUNNEL TO LEMURIA.
ALL SYSTEMS SHIFT TO SILENT RUNNING.
ENERGY EMISSIONS DAMPER SHIELDS TO MAX.
OUR SMALL CRAFT WILL BE VIRTUALLY UNDETECTABLE.

HOLD TIGHT, BOYS AND GIRL! WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST TO KEEP OURSELVES HIDDEN!

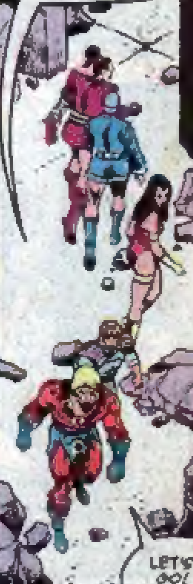












AND NOT FAR AWAY BEFORE THE SEAT OF THE PRIESTLORD GHAUR

IT TOOK THE PRIESTS A LONG TIME TO OBTAIN ACCESS TO THE GENETIC MATRIX CODES OF THE DEVIANTS, KRO.

SUBORNING FILE CLERKS. BRIBING OFFICIALS. LICKING THE BOOTS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY.

BUT EVENTUALLY THEY COMPILED A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE GENETIC CODE OF EVERY LIVING DEVIANT.

WITH THAT INFORMATION, THE FINEST MINDS OF THE PRIESTHOOD WORKED TIRELESSLY TO RECOMBINE THE GENETIC STRUCTURES WITHIN THE DEVIANT GENE POOL.

TO PRODUCE A BEING WHO COULD MASTER THE INHERENT INSTABILITY OF THE DEVIANT MATRIX.

THEY SUCCEEDED BEYOND THEIR WILDEST DREAMS.

THE GENETIC CODES OF AN ENTIRE RACE ARE LOCKED WITHIN THE HEMISPHERES OF MY BRAIN...

AND I CAN COMMAND THEM!

I HAVE BUT TO ASK AND A DEVIANT FLINGS HIMSELF INTO THE FIRE WITHOUT HESITATION!

I HAVE BUT TO THINK, AND MY PEOPLE ARE MY ABJECT SLAVES.

BUT YOUR POWER, "LORD" GHAUR, IS NOT ABSOLUTE.

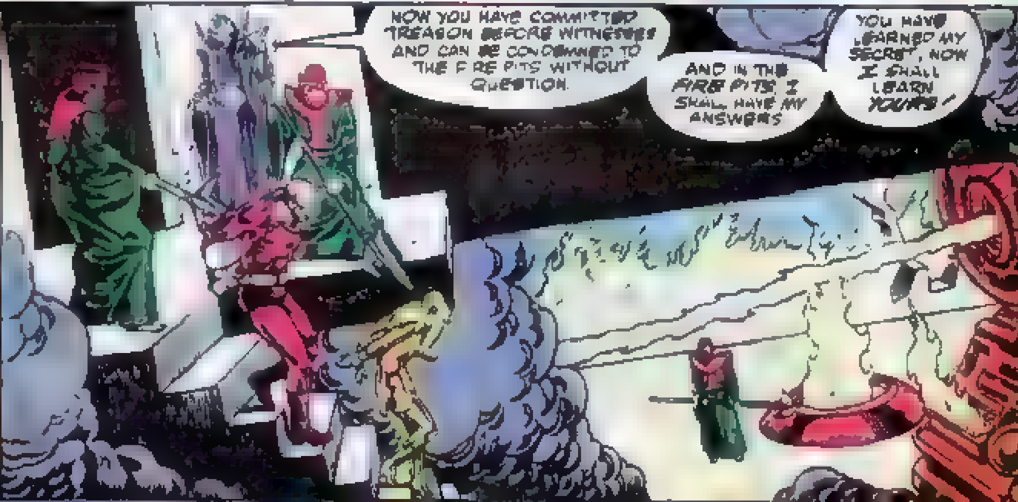
... OR YOU WOULD HAVE MADE ME YOUR PUPPET KING.

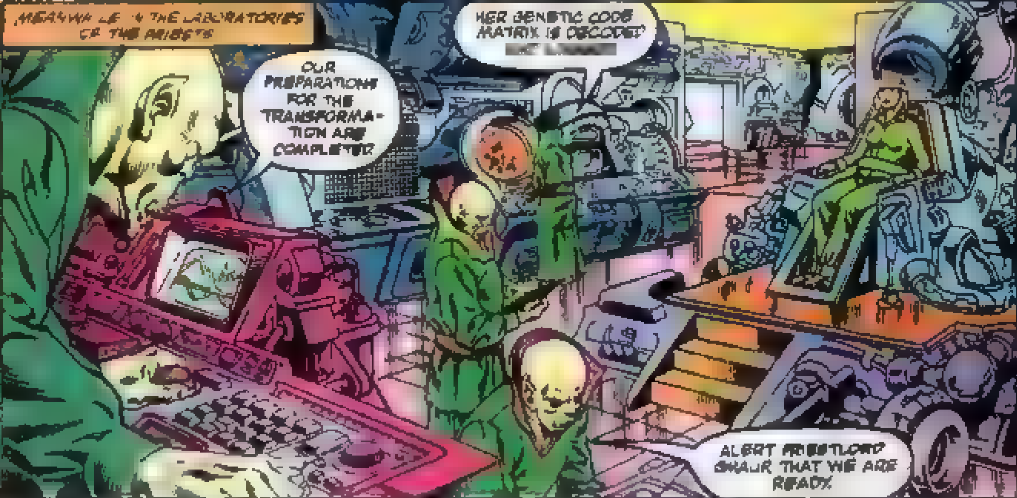
INSTEAD OF TRYING TO HAVE ME SLAIN.*

*ETERNALS #6 -- MAC

IT'S TRUE, KRO! MY POWER HAS SOME LIMITATIONS BUT YOU *ALONE* SEEM IMMUNE TO MY SILENT COMMANDS.

THOUGH I KNOW YOUR GENETIC CODE AS I KNOW MY OWN, *YOUR* WILL HAS ALWAYS BEEN UNBREAKABLE.

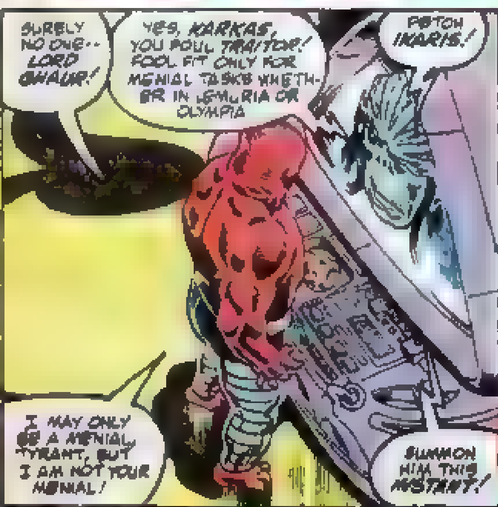


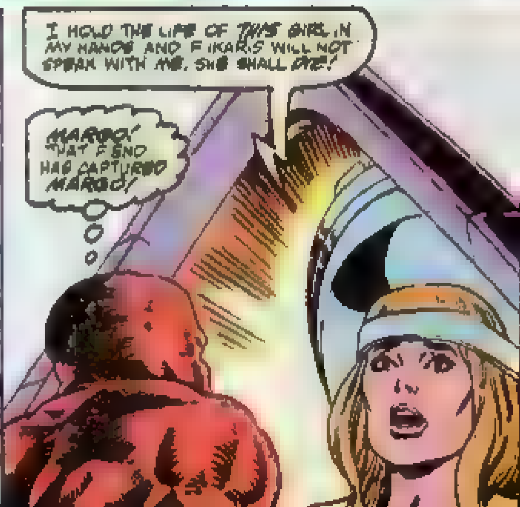

MEANWHILE IN THE LABORATORIES OF THE PRIESTS
OUR PREPARATIONS FOR THE TRANSFORMATION ARE COMPLETED
HER GENETIC CODE MATRIX IS DECODED [redacted]
ALERT PRIESTLORD GHAUR THAT WE ARE READY.


AND IN THE TEMPLE ITSELF
I SHALL TAKE GREAT PLEASURE IN THIS LITTLE INTERVIEW.


IKARIS WILL LEARN THAT THE DEVIANTS ARE NOT TO BE TRIFLED WITH
KLICK

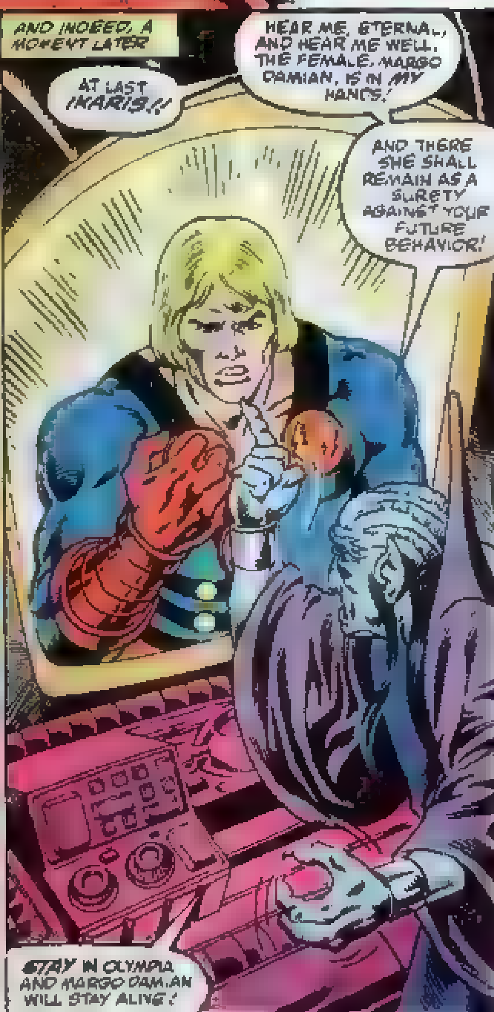
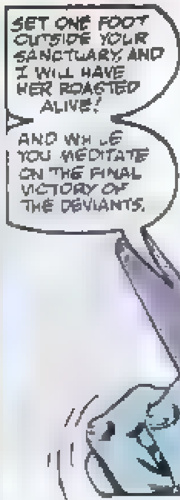
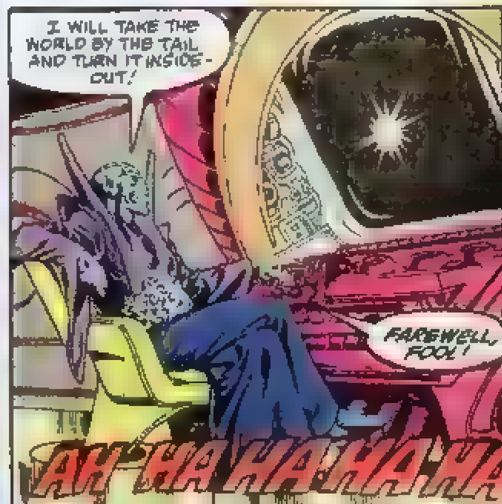

AND IN OLYMPIA, HALF A WORLD AWAY.
WHO CALLS AT THIS HOUR OF THE NIGHT?

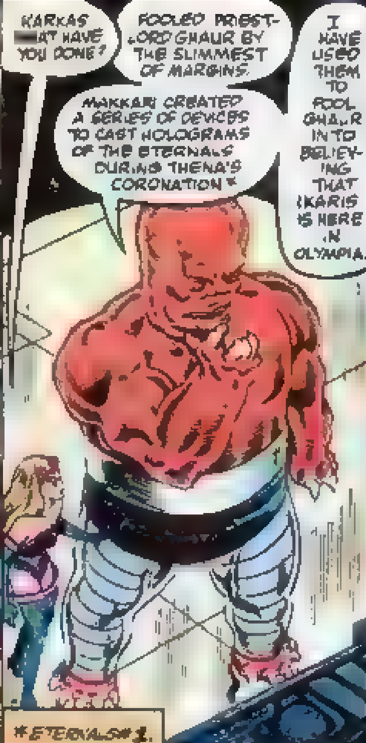

SURELY NO ONE-- LORD GHAUR!
YES, KARKAS, YOU FOUL TRAITOR! FOOL FIT ONLY FOR MENIAL TASKS WHETHER IN LEMURIA OR OLYMPIA
FETCH IKARIS!
I MAY ONLY BE A MENIAL, TYRANT, BUT I AM NOT YOUR MENIAL!
SUMMON HIM THIS INSTANT!


I HOLD THE LIFE OF THIS GIRL IN MY HANDS AND IF IKARIS WILL NOT SPEAK WITH ME, SHE SHALL DIE!
MARGO! THAT FIEND HAS CAPTURED MARGO!

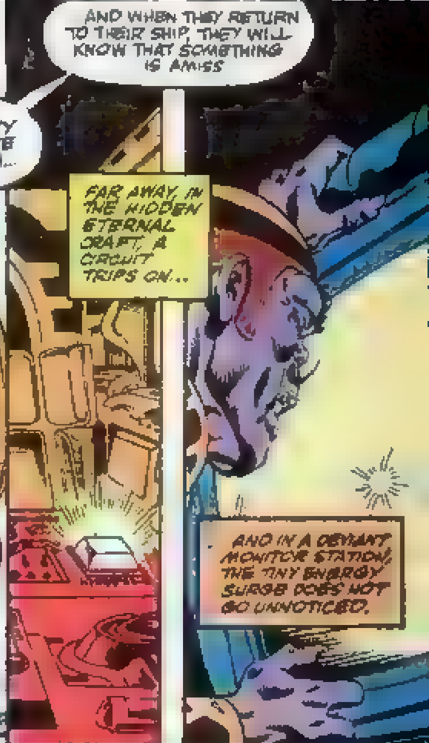

TO TELL GHAUR THAT IKARIS ALREADY WALKS THE BYWAYS OF LEMURIA WOULD CONDEMN MARGO TO DEATH!
BUT IF IKARIS IS NOT FORTHCOMING..
SHE WILL DIE ANYWAY!

THERE IS ONLY ONE CHANCE. IF I CAN BUT REMEMBER WHAT MAKKARI SHOWED ME BEFORE HE LEFT!

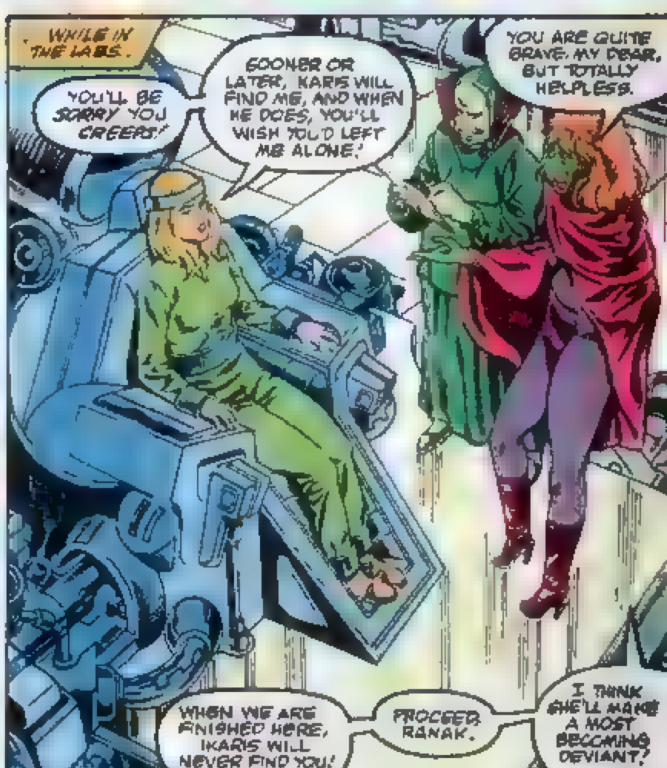
A MOMENT, MY LORD. HE COMES NOW
I HOPE!
WELL, CRETIN?!! MY PATIENCE IS AT AN END! PRODUCE IKARIS OR--

AND INDEED, A MOMENT LATER
AT LAST IKARIS!!
HEAR ME, ETERNAL, AND HEAR ME WELL. THE FEMALE, MARGO DAMIAN, IS IN MY HANDS!
AND THERE SHE SHALL REMAIN AS A SURETY AGAINST YOUR FUTURE BEHAVIOR!
STAY IN OLYMPIA AND MARGO DAMIAN WILL STAY ALIVE!

SET ONE FOOT OUTSIDE YOUR SANCTUARY, AND I WILL HAVE HER ROASTED ALIVE!
AND WHILE YOU MEDITATE ON THE FINAL VICTORY OF THE DEVIANTS,

I WILL TAKE THE WORLD BY THE TAIL AND TURN IT INSIDE-OUT!
FAREWELL, FOOL!
AH-HA HA-HA-HA-HA


KARKAS [redacted]AT HAVE YOU DONE?
FOOLED PRIEST-LORD GHAUR BY THE SLIMMEST OF MARGINS.
MAKKARI CREATED A SERIES OF DEVICES TO CAST HOLOGRAMS OF THE ETERNALS DURING THENA'S CORONATION*
I HAVE USED THEM TO FOOL GHAUR INTO BELIEVING THAT IKARIS IS HERE IN OLYMPIA.
*ETERNALS #1.

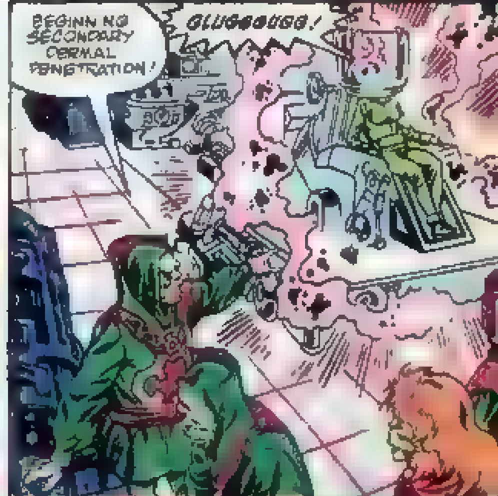

BUT IF HE LEARNS THE TRUTH, MARGO WILL CERTAINLY DIE.
I CANNOT WARN IKARIS AND HIS PARTY BUT I WILL ACTIVATE A WA[redacted]...


AND WHEN THEY RETURN TO THEIR SHIP, THEY WILL KNOW THAT SOMETHING IS AMISS
FAR AWAY, IN THE HIDDEN ETERNAL CRAFT, A CIRCUIT TRIPS ON...
AND IN A DEVIANT MONITOR STATION, THE TINY ENERGY SURGE DOES NOT GO UNNOTICED.


A MOMENT LATER AND...
MOVE OUT, YOU DOGS!
AND KEEP YOUR WEAPONS READY!
SOMEBODY'S GOT AN ILLEGAL RECEIVER OUT THERE SOMEWHERE AND WE'RE GOING TO BRING HIM IN!
OR KILL HIM!

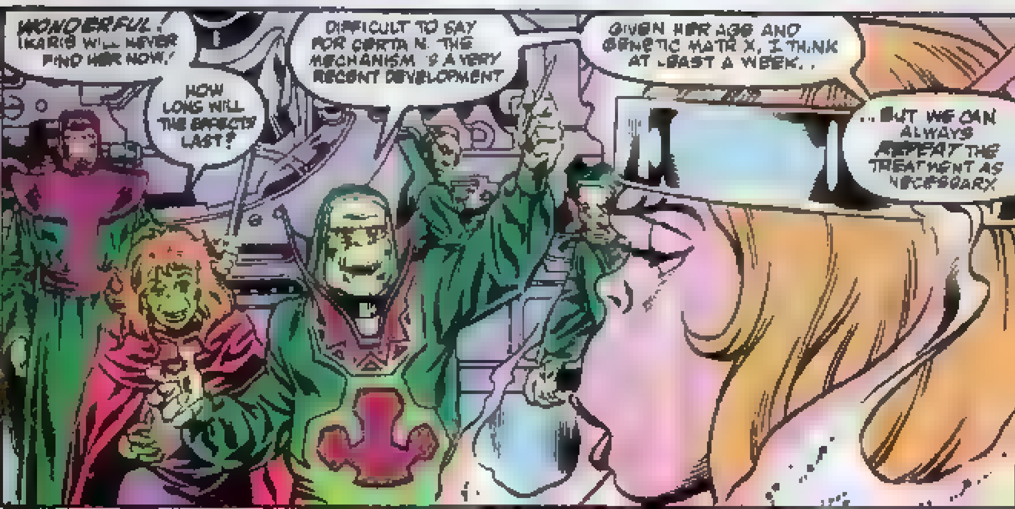

WHILE IN THE LABS.
YOU'LL BE SORRY YOU CREEPS!
SOONER OR LATER, IKARIS WILL FIND ME, AND WHEN HE DOES, YOU'LL WISH YOU'D LEFT ME ALONE!
YOU ARE QUITE BRAVE, MY DEAR, BUT TOTALLY HELPLESS.
WHEN WE ARE FINISHED HERE, IKARIS WILL NEVER FIND YOU!
PROCEED, RANAK.
I THINK SHE'LL MAKE A MOST BECOMING DEVIANT!

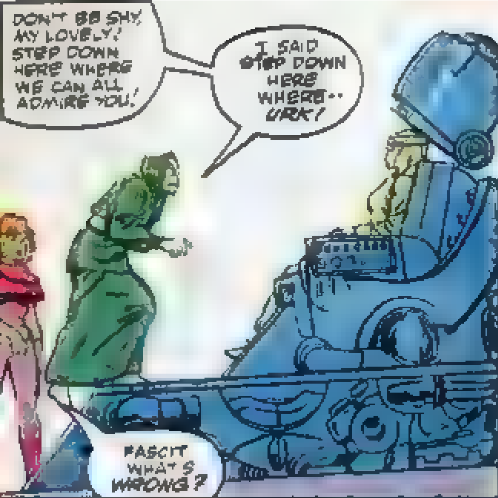

LOWER THE HOOD!
WHAT?!
OH NO! NO!

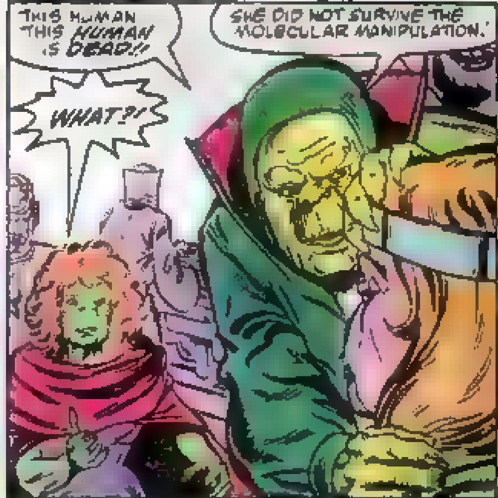

BEGINNING SECONDARY DERMAL PENETRATION!


BEGINNING PRIMARY DERMAL PENETRATION!

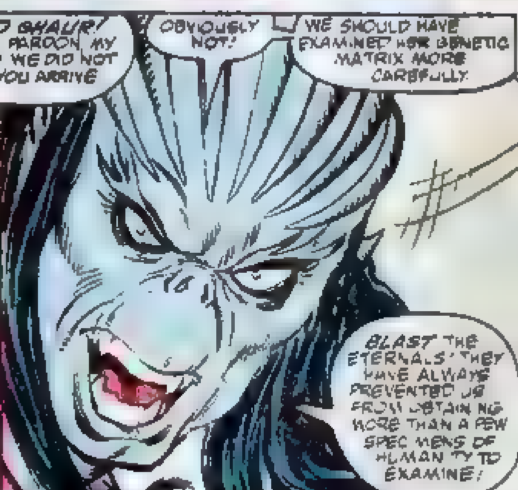

FSSSSSSASSAPPKK!
IGNITION!
ATOMIC MANIPULATION COMPLETE!
ALL SYSTEMS SHUT DOWN!

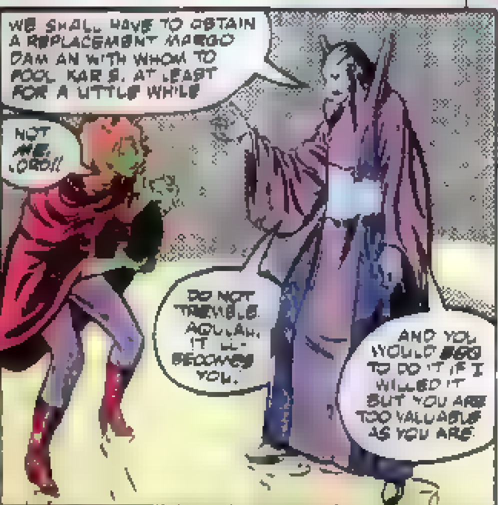

WONDERFUL! IKARIS WILL NEVER FIND HER NOW!
HOW LONG WILL THE EFFECTS LAST?
DIFFICULT TO SAY FOR CERTAIN. THE MECHANISM IS A VERY RECENT DEVELOPMENT
GIVEN HER AGE AND GENETIC MATRIX, I THINK AT LEAST A WEEK...
...BUT WE CAN ALWAYS REPEAT THE TREATMENT AS NECESSARY.


DON'T BE SHY, MY LOVELY! STEP DOWN HERE WHERE WE CAN ALL ADMIRE YOU!
I SAID STEP DOWN HERE WHERE-- URK!
FASCIT, WHAT'S WRONG?


THIS HUMAN... THIS HUMAN IS DEAD!!
SHE DID NOT SURVIVE THE MOLECULAR MANIPULATION.
WHAT?!


IT CAN'T BE! GHAUR WILL HAVE US SENT TO THE FIRE PITS FOR THIS!
AND EVEN HIS ANGER WILL BE NOTHING COMPARED TO IKARIS'S IF HE DISCOVERS WHAT HAS HAPPENED HERE
THEN HE MUST NOT FIND OUT!
LORD GHAUR! YOUR PARDON, MY LORD. WE DID NOT SEE YOU ARRIVE


OBVIOUSLY NOT!
WE SHOULD HAVE EXAMINED HER GENETIC MATRIX MORE CAREFULLY.
BLAST THE ETERNALS! THEY HAVE ALWAYS PREVENTED US FROM OBTAINING MORE THAN A FEW SPECIMENS OF HUMANITY TO EXAMINE!


WE SHALL HAVE TO OBTAIN A REPLACEMENT MARGO DAMIAN WITH WHOM TO FOOL IKARIS, AT LEAST FOR A LITTLE WHILE
NOT ME, LORD!!
DO NOT TREMBLE, AGULAH. IT ILL-BECOMES YOU.
AND YOU WOULD BEG TO DO IT IF I WILLED IT. BUT YOU ARE TOO VALUABLE AS YOU ARE.


SEE THAT YRDYSIS IS BROUGHT HERE AT ONCE.
AS A GENUINE ARTIST SHE MAY HAVE THE SENSITIVITY NEEDED TO CONVINCE IKARIS THAT SHE IS HUMAN, AT LEAST FOR A LITTLE WHILE

MEANWHILE, ON THE STREETS OF THE CITY OF TOADS

MY BUILT-IN SENSORS TELL ME WE AREN'T FAR FROM THE FIELD DISTORTION NOW, IKARIS.

THE MYSTERIOUS ETERNAL IS JUST A BLOCK OR SO AWAY.

LOOK THERE IKARIS. EVEN HERE IN THIS CITY OF DESPAIR, GRACE AND A GENTLE SOUL MAY BE BORN.

PERHAPS THERE IS *HOPE* EVEN FOR THE DEVIANTS.

WHAT?

CITIZENESS *YRDNSIS*, YOU ARE *SUMMONED!*

AGULAU WHAT *IS* THIS?

YOU HAVE BEEN DECLARED ONE OF THE *CHOSEN*.

BECAUSE OF YOUR GREAT GIFTS, YOU SHALL ENTER INTO THE CLOISTERS AND GIVE YOURSELF UP TO THE SERVICE OF THE GODS.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! SHE OBVIOUSLY DOESN'T WANT TO GO AND NO ONE IS LIFTING A FINGER TO STOP THEM!

THEY CAN'T JUST WALK AWAY WITH HER LIKE THAT!

MAKKARI *NO!* WE MUST REMAIN INCON-SPICUOUS!

THIS IS THE DEVIANT WAY! LET HER GO!

LOOK! EVEN SHE ENTERS THE VAN WITHOUT A MURMUR.

THE LIFE HERE IN LEMURIA IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM ANYTHING YOU OR I ARE FAMILIAR WITH, MAKKARI.

AND UNTIL WE KNOW JUST WHERE GHAUR IS AND WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE VIAL, WE MUST DO *NOTHING* MORE THAN OBSERVE.

ELSEWHERE IN NEW YORK, IN ONE OF SERSI'S APARTMENTS.

BLAST IT! I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE JUST WALKED OUT LIKE THAT!

GET USED TO IT DAVE. AN ETERNAL DOESN'T THINK THE WAY WE DO.

SHE'LL BE BACK WHEN SHE'S READY TO RETURN.

THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH!

FIRST SHE SAVES MY LIFE WHEN I WANTED TO END IT AND HANDS ME A LINE ABOUT LIVING BEING MEANINGFUL,

AND THE SECOND I GET A CHANCE TO HELP OUT WITH SOMETHING THAT REALLY MATTERS, I'M DUMPED LIKE YESTERDAY'S GARBAGE!

WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO?

FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON AND HELP WHETHER SHE LIKES IT OR NOT!

THIS PICTURE WAS SOME KIND OF TV SET AND I'M GOING TO.. OH!

WHO CALLS OLYMPIA?

HELLO, KARKAS. HOW'S TRICKS?

OR HOLDEN?

AND FRIEND! I'M DAVE CHATTERTON! WHERE'S SERSI?

SHE HAS MENTIONED YOU, MR CHATTERTON, BUT I'M AFRAID I'M NOT AT LIBERTY TO REVEAL ANYTHING ABOUT SERSI'S CURRENT WHEREABOUTS.

OH, YEAH? ANOTHER SPOILSPORT! WELL, JUST KEEP DREAMING, PAL, 'CAUSE YOU'LL TELL ME IF I HAVE TO SHAKE IT OUT OF YOU!

DAVE?

DON'T TRY TO STOP ME SAM. I'M HEADING FOR OLYMPIA.

WEAR SOMETHING WARM.

SLAM!!

AND AT THAT MOMENT IN THE CITY OF TOADS

THIS IS THE PLACE, IKARIS!

OUR MYSTERY ETERNAL IS INSIDE

NO ONE'S LOOKING. GET BACK

WE'RE GOING TO DISCOVER THE ANSWER RIGHT--

...NOW! KHORYPHOS! **YOU!**

HOW DID HE KNOW THAT WE'RE **DISGUISED!** HAS KHORYPHOS BETRAYED US?

WHO? **IKARIS! MAKKARI!** WHAT ARE **YOU** DOING HERE?

IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN A SIMPLE ATOM SHIFT TO CLOAK THE ENERGY OF IKARIS, MY FRIEND...

...AS MY MUSIC REVEALS.

LUCKILY, MOST DEVIANTS LACK THE WIT TO SEE YOUR TRUE NATURES.

GOOD OLD KHORY! GUILELESS AS EVER

HOW DID YOU COME HERE?

AN ACCIDENT* AND I FOUND SOMETHING WONDERFUL.

THE DEVIANTS HAVE **SOULS.**

FOR THE LADY WHO LIVES HERE IS AN ARTIST AND THOUGH SHE IS FILLED WITH **RAGE** SHE SINGS IT ELOQUENTLY IN HER PAINTINGS.

IKARIS, **LOOK!**

* ETERNALS #7

THAT'S THE WOMAN WE SAW THE PRIEST POLICE CARRYING OFF.

WHAT?

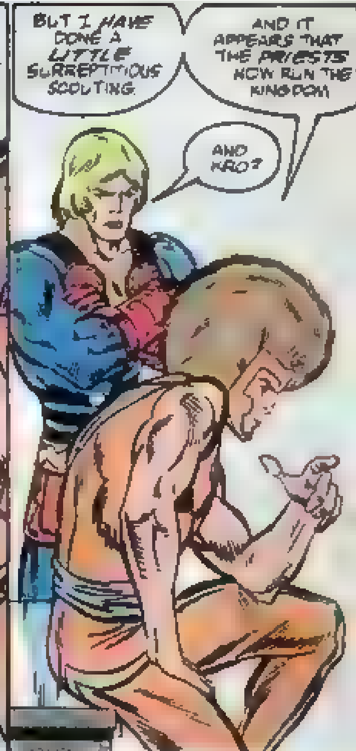
BUT **NO ONE** EVER COMES OUT AGAIN FROM THE HOUSES OF THE PRIESTS!

WE MUST SAVE HER!

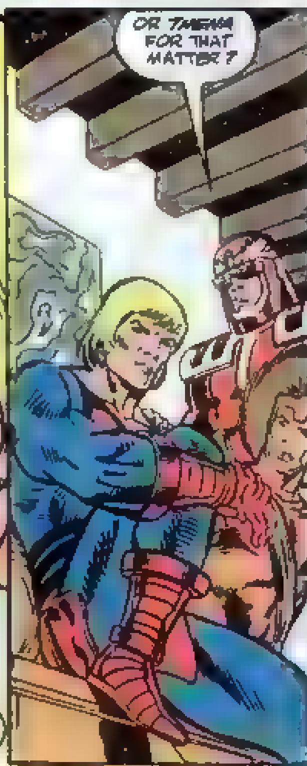
SHE IS TOO GREAT AN ARTIST TO ALLOW THE PRIESTS TO **DESTROY** HER **TALENT!**

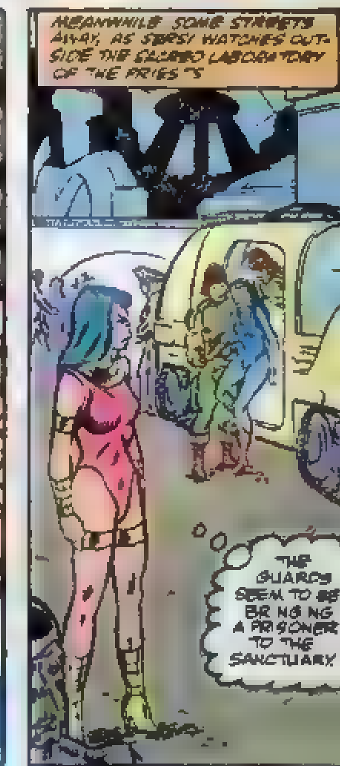

A MOMENT KHORYPHOS. I REALIZE THAT YOUR FRIEND IS PROBABLY IN A LOT OF TROUBLE.
BUT RIGHT NOW, WE ARE ALL IN A LOT OF TROUBLE.
AND UNLESS WE CAN FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON, WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SAVE OURSELVES, LET ALONE ANYONE ELSE.


YOU'VE BEEN HERE FOR A WHILE. WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED ABOUT LEMURIA?
NOT MUCH, IKARIS, SAVE THAT THE DEVIANTS CAN PRODUCE GENUINE ARTISTS LIKE YRDISIS.


BUT I HAVE DONE A LITTLE SURREPTITIOUS SCOUTING.
AND IT APPEARS THAT THE PRIESTS NOW RUN THE KINGDOM.
AND KRO?


THE KINGSHIP HAS BEEN GUTTED AND GHAUR NOW RULES WITHOUT THE CROWN. KRO HAS BEEN OUTMANEUVERED.
IS THAT SO? YOU KNOW, MAKKAR, I AM BEGINNING TO WONDER JUST HOW MUCH OF A TRAITOR TO HIS PEOPLE KRO REALLY WAS.


OR THEM FOR THAT MATTER?


MEANWHILE SOME STREETS AWAY, AS SERSI WATCHES OUTSIDE THE SACRED LABORATORY OF THE PRIESTS
THE GUARDS SEEM TO BE BRINGING A PRISONER TO THE SANCTUARY.


SHE'S ABOUT MY SIZE...
...AND THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA.


IKARIS WILL WISH TO LEARN WHAT DEVILTRY THE PRIESTS ARE CONTEMPLATING WITHIN.
FIRST, I NEED TO WEAVE AN ILLUSION ABOUT MYSELF...


...AND THEN, WHEN THE MOMENT IS RIGHT...


...ANOTHER ILLUSION BEYOND THE ROOFS WILL COMPLETE MY RUSE.
KRUMPFF!
WHAT ?

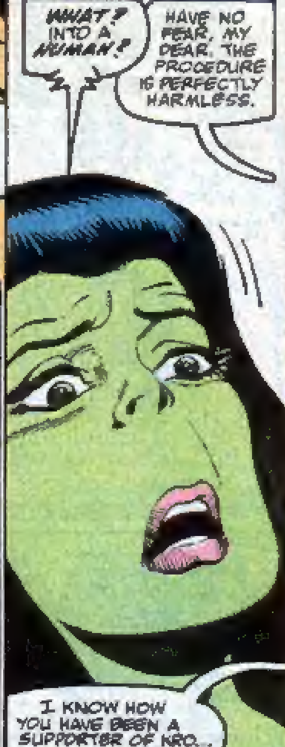

AN EXPLOSION NEAR THE NORTH END OF THE LABORATORY!
FUNNY, IT SEEMS TO HAVE VANISHED COMPLETELY!


PROBABLY THE PRIESTS TESTING WEAPONS AGAIN.
YEAH, BUT I-- HEY! WHAT ABOUT YROISIS!
I AM HERE.


YOU'RE SMART NOT TO TRY ANYTHING, GIRLIE.
SO I'LL GIVE YOU A FRIENDLY WORD OF ADVICE.
GHAUR'LL TURN YOU INSIDE OUT IF YOU CROSS HIM SO JUST DO AS HE SAYS AND MAYBE YOU'LL GET OUT OKAY.
LET'S GO.

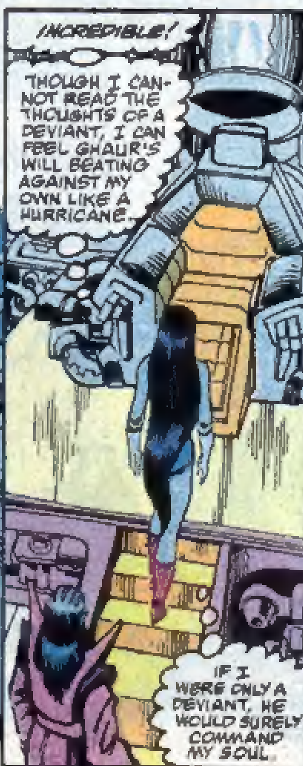

AH, WELCOME, YRDISIS, CHILD OF THE GODS.
THANK YOU FOR ANSWERING MY SUMMONS.
MY LORD?

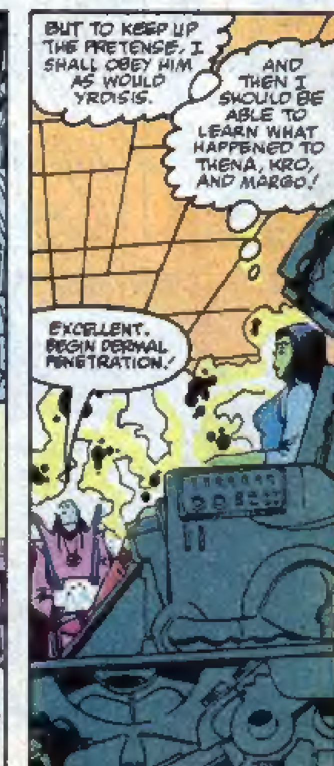

I SHALL BESTOW A SINGULAR HONOR UPON YOU, MY DEAR. I AM GOING TO MAKE YOU BEAUTIFUL.
YOU ARE ABOUT TO BECOME A DUPLICATE FOR A HUMAN BEING NAMED MARGO DAMIAN.
MARGO? WHAT DOES GHAUR KNOW OF HER?


WHAT? INTO A HUMAN?
HAVE NO FEAR, MY DEAR. THE PROCEDURE IS PERFECTLY HARMLESS.
I KNOW HOW YOU HAVE BEEN A SUPPORTER OF KRO...


...AND THIS OPPORTUNITY WILL ENABLE US TO FORGET SUCH PAST INDISCRETIONS...
...ESPECIALLY AS KRO AND HIS PARAMOUR, THENA, HAVE ALREADY BEEN FOUND AND DEALT WITH.

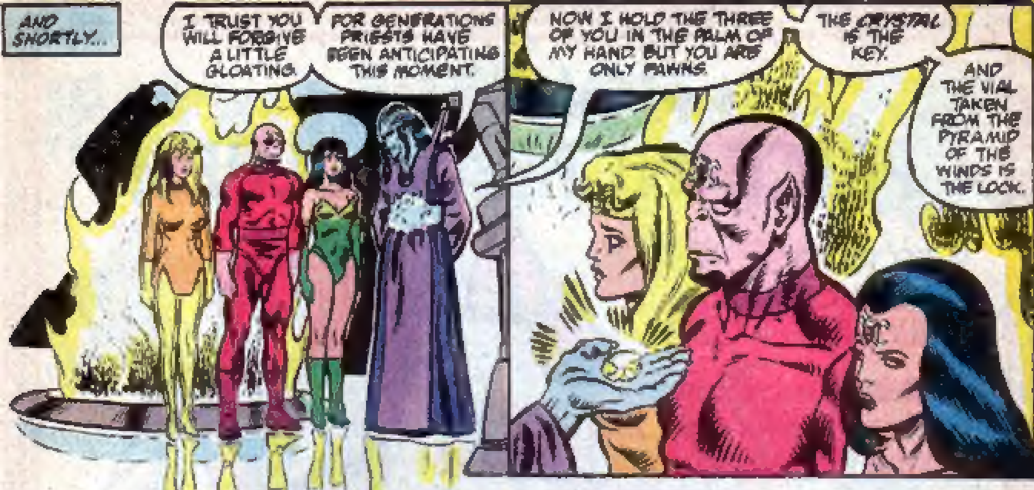

SO THERE'S REALLY NO POINT IN EVEN THINKING ABOUT HIM ANY LONGER.
BESIDES, MY DEAR, YOU DO WANT TO DO IT MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WORLD, DON'T YOU?


INCREDIBLE!
THOUGH I CANNOT READ THE THOUGHTS OF A DEVIANT, I CAN FEEL GHAUR'S WILL BEATING AGAINST MY OWN LIKE A HURRICANE...
IF I WERE ONLY A DEVIANT, HE WOULD SURELY COMMAND MY SOUL.


BUT TO KEEP UP THE PRETENSE, I SHALL OBEY HIM AS WOULD YRDISIS.
AND THEN I SHOULD BE ABLE TO LEARN WHAT HAPPENED TO THENA, KRO, AND MARGO!
EXCELLENT. BEGIN DERMAL PENETRATION!


FSSSSSSSAPPK!

A MOMENT LATER...
AH, PERFECT.
HOW FORTUNATE THAT I CAN ASSUME MARGO'S APPEARANCE.
THIS ILLUSION WOULD FOOL EVEN IKARIS.
IN FACT, I MIGHT TRY THAT SOMETIME.
YES, THE LIKENESS IS EXACT.
HOWEVER, THERE IS JUST ONE SMALL DETAIL MISSING.
SLAPP
WHAT?
I'VE BEEN BRAIN-MINED!
I MUST FREE MYSELF BEFORE... FREE MYSELF... FR...
OHHHHHH...
A PRETTY CATCH, INDEED! WELCOME TO THE CITY OF TOADS, SERSI!
I FEAR OUR PARTIES HERE MAY NOT BE ENTIRELY TO YOUR TASTE...
...BUT WE DEVIANTS ENJOY THEM.
THE MANIPULATOR-MONITORS INDICATED AN ANOMALOUS READING ON THE SUBJECT, NEITHER DEVIANT NOR HUMAN.
AND THAT LEFT ONLY ONE POSSIBILITY... AN ETERNAL.
SERSI WILL BE INVALUABLE TO US WHEN SHE HAS BEEN PROPERLY CONDITIONED.
WE WILL BE ABLE TO WREST ALL THE ETERNALS' PLANS FROM HER BRAIN!
SEE THAT SHE IS TAKEN TO THE FIRE PITS TO JOIN KRO AND THENA.









NEXT: **THE GENIE OF THE BOTTLE!** IN WHICH THE DREAMING CELESTIAL IS RE-BORN!